

PROBLEM SOLVING MODEL STEPS HANDOUT

UNIT 5: Peer Relationships

ACTIVITY 3: Problem Solving with Peers

GRADE: 8

ramp-up to
READINESS™

Problem Solving Model Steps

1. What is the problem?
2. What are my choices?
3. What are the consequences of each choice?
4. Pick the best choice.

More about the Problem Solving Model Steps

1. What is the problem?
It is important to first identify the problem clearly
2. What are my choices?
Consider all choices, even if they first appear to be negative choices
3. What are the consequences of each choice?
Provides the opportunity to project the outcome of the different choices
4. Pick the best choice.
Making a choice of action is often much easier when you take the time to do the first three steps

Note: People are often much less emotional when making a decision after using this model. Bad decisions are often made when people act out of anger or sadness without thinking things through. Some teenagers make impulsive decisions. This model is especially helpful because it helps teenagers think logically about the problem before taking action.

Possible Skit Scenarios

1. **Positive Peer Pressure:** Show how positive peer groups can influence students to demonstrate more positive personality traits such as: Helpful, loyal, optimistic, ambitious, considerate, fun, trustworthy, honest, sincere, stable, ethical, funny, or kind.
2. **Social Media Tools:** Create a problem solving model skit using one of the social media tools well: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Tumblr, or Pinterest.

Step 1 (what is the problem?) is important because students must first identify the problem clearly. Step 2 (what are my choices?) allows students to consider all choices, even if they first appear to be negative choices. Step 3 (what are the consequences of each choice?) provides students the opportunity to project the outcome of the different choices. Step 4 (pick the best choice) involves making a choice of action and is often much easier when students take the time to do the first three steps.